and estimates have been sanctioned but the work is not yet commenced, or plans and estimates have been prepared but are not yet sanctioned, or plans and estimates have not yet been prepared; whether the work is or is not ready to be opened at once and is a useful work, or is not useful except as a means of providing famine labour; the estimated cost at ordinary rates of the whole work and of the portion available for relief, and the number of units who can be employed;

(*c*) in the case of works for which plans and estimates have not been prepared, the approximate figures shall be entered and steps shall be taken as early as possible to survey the works, prepare plans and estimates, obtain sanction to them and enter in the programme the correct figures.

The Superintending Engineer shall scrutinize the district programmes and forward them, with such amendments and additions as he may think necessary, to the Commissioner, who shall submit them with his remarks to Government in the Public Works Department. Final orders of Government approving the programmes should be issued before the expiry of the quinquennium.

(iii) *Reserves of Establishment and Tools*

15. *Record to be maintained by Collectors of non-officials suitable for employment on scarcity or famine relief duties.*—The Collector, in consultation with the Executive Engineer, shall maintain a list of the names of non-officials suitable for employment as charge officers, karkuns on works, mistris or in other professional capacity.

16. *List to be maintained by Collector of persons whose employment on scarcity or famine relief duties is undesirable.*—The Collector, in consultation with the Executive Engineer, shall also maintain a list of the names of those non-officials who have been employed on scarcity or famine duties and whose work has been found to be unsatisfactory, and of other non-officials whose record is known to them to be unsatisfactory.

17. *Reserve of tools.*—Reserves of tools shall always be maintained at such centres in the Presidency as Government may direct, the total number for the Presidency being not less than the following: —

Pavras	...	120,000
Picks	...	100,000
Stone-breaking hammers	...	80,000
Iron baskets (ghamelas)	...	120,000

The Superintending Engineer shall submit yearly inspection reports on these reserves to Government in the Public Works Department by 15th April.

CHAPTER II.—PRELIMINARY PREPARATIONS WHEN SCARCITY IS IMMINENT

18. *Signs of approaching danger.*—Apart from the failure in the rainfall and the movements of prices, the following premonitory symptoms are generally observed:—The contraction of private charity indicated by the wandering of paupers, the contraction of credit, feverish activity in the grain trade, restlessness shown in the increase of crime, unusual movements of flocks and herds in search of pasturage and unusual wandering of people.

19. *Measures to be taken when scarcity threatens.*—On the first warnings of scarcity the following measures shall be taken:—

(*a*) the district and taluka revenue officers shall take all possible steps to encourage the migration of able-bodied labourers, both men and women, to centres where labour is required, and to assist them to do so before their resources are exhausted, bearing in mind that for the general good of the country it is desirable that labour should go where it can be employed on economic works, and that in a year of scarcity when the

water-supply is always short it is advisable on sanitary grounds that people should migrate and thus reduce consumption of water;

(*b*) special attention shall be paid to the inspection reports of the village and taluka officers, the Sub-Divisional Officers verifying them by personal inspection on the spot, as far as possible;

(*c*) the Collector shall enquire of large employers of labour such as the Mill-owners' Association, Bombay, the Municipal Commissioner of Bombay and others and ascertain from them where labour is required, to what extent and on what terms;

(*d*) the Collector shall inform the Director, Labour Office, Bombay, that owing to the impending scarcity large numbers of unskilled labourers are likely to be in need of work and shall ask him to give this information to employers of labour (Railways, Military Works, Public Works Department Works, Managers of mills, factories and mines), and obtain from them information as to the numbers of labourers for whom they can provide employment and what rates of wages they are prepared to pay. The Director, Labour Office, shall communicate the information to the Collector as it is received from the different employers of labour, and the Collector shall take immediate steps to have it published widely throughout his district;

(*e*) the Director, Labour Office, shall also arrange with those employers of labour who desire to recruit labour in the scarcity area to send approved agents to the district for the purpose. The names of such agents and the areas in which they propose to work shall be communicated to the Collector who shall inform the Mamlatdars of the talukas in which they are working, and instruct the Mamlatdars to watch them, assist them to obtain the labour required, and see that they treat fairly the people whom they recruit;

(*f*) the District and Railway Superintendents of Police shall keep Collectors informed of symptoms of approaching distress and send special reports of any increase of crime attributable to rise in prices or scarcity of food;

(*g*) the Railway Administrations shall keep the Collectors informed of unusual movements of food-grains by rail;

(*h*) the Collector, in consultation with the Presidents of the District Local Boards or of Municipalities in his district, and with the Executive Engineer, shall revise the programmes of scarcity and famine relief works, select the works which should be opened first, make arrangements for the tools and plant of all kinds required for the selected works to be held in readiness for immediate use, select the sites for opening camps on such works and make arrangements for strengthening the staff so that it may be ready when required;

(*i*) the Collector shall give timely notice to the printing agency that a considerable number of forms will be required;

(*j*) the Collector shall inform the Director of Public Health of probable requirements of medical officers;

(*k*) the Collector shall organize in advance the village inspection arrangements (Chapter V) and see that the village officers and Circle Inspectors are instructed in their famine duties;

(*l*) the Collector shall organize non-official relief agency and private charity; in each taluka a central committee shall be appointed, whose duty it shall be to advise generally, to stimulate private charity, collect subscriptions in cash or grain and later on, if necessary, to manage scarcity works and supervise and assist in the distribution of gratuitous relief; in each town or large village a sub-committee shall be formed, or if there is a Municipality, the Municipal Committee shall be requested to undertake the duty;

(*m*) advances of takavi shall be given in accordance with the policy outlined in Appendix XII.

(*n*) inquiries as to the suspension of revenue shall be begun;

(*o*) the Collector shall submit to Government a report containing information on the action taken, and on all the points mentioned in rule 1 of Appendix II;

(*p*) the Local Government shall submit to the Government of India the report required by Appendix II, rules 1 and 2, and shall review the financial position and make such reappropriations for famine relief as may be possible by reduction of current expenditure.

20. *Opening of scarcity works and poor-houses.*—If the Collector finds that distress deepens, he shall—

(*a*) arrange for the gratuitous relief of the classes described in section 147 in emergent cases in which the postponement of the grant of such relief until scarcity or famine has been declared under section 30 and the regular distribution of village gratuitous relief has been commenced under section 33 may in his judgment, owing to the contraction or cessation of private charity, lead to privation which endangers life;

(*b*) take the measures described in sections 160 and 161 in those villages in which he considers them necessary in order to secure the proper performance of village duties;

(*c*) open poor-houses where necessary for the relief of destitute wanderers, reporting his action by telegram to the Commissioner;

(*d*) instruct the District Superintendent of Police to carry out, so far as they are applicable, the measures prescribed in section 20*b* in respect of such wanderers;

(*e*) send to the Superintending Engineer at the earliest opportunity but not later than the 1st January a rough estimate of the number of persons who will probably require relief on works of all kinds in the district and for what period they will require relief.

21. *Collector's report to Commissioner.*—When the Collector decides to open scarcity works and poor-houses, he shall at once submit to the Commissioner a report accompanied by statement in Form 2 giving full information on the points mentioned in section 22 and applying for such additional staff as he is likely to require for relief operations. If subsequently the works begin to attract workers in considerable numbers he shall report the fact to the Commissioner by telegram.

22. *Commissioner's report to Government.*—When the Commissioner finds reason to believe from the reports submitted to him that scarcity is imminent in any part of his division he shall report the fact to Government appending a statement in Form 2 and specially noting—

(*a*) the grounds of his belief;

(*b*) the estimated outturn of the principal crops;

(*c*) the extent of grain stocks and fodder supply, with their normal and prevailing prices, expressed in pounds and chhataks per rupee;

(*d*) the state of trade and the sources from which food supplies are likely to come in;

(*e*) the condition of the people;

(*f*) the preparations already made;

(*g*) the proposed measures of relief;

(*h*) the additional establishment likely to be required;

(*i*) the extent to which suspensions or remissions of land revenue and takavi advances may be necessary;

(*j*) any local sources from which the estimated expenditure on relief can be met.

23. *Organization of village inspection and gratuitous relief.*—If from what is indicated by the scarcity works or other circumstances the Collector considers that distress is imminent, relief circles may be organized as explained

in section 48, the necessary inspection made and preliminary registers drawn up of persons eligible for gratuitous relief in their villages as explained in section 148.

24. *Fodder and drinking water.*—If there is a prospect of scarcity of fodder or drinking water, early steps shall be taken to meet it and to encourage private enterprise to import fodder and develop the water-supply.

25. *Medical establishment.*—The Director of Public Health on receipt of information from the Collectors as per sub-section (*j*) of section 19, shall prepare and forward to the Surgeon General an estimate of the additional medical staff likely to be required.

26. *Police establishment.*—Similarly the District and Railway Superintendents of Police shall apply for sanction to enlist such extra force as is likely to be required for duty at famine relief works and poor-houses, for the escort of treasure and for extra duty on railways.

27. *Arrangements for railway transport of food-grains and fodder.*—The Commissioner shall arrange for the early communication to the agents or managers of railways likely to be concerned of impending scarcity or famine in any district.

28. *Meeting of civil and railway officers to consider demands on railways.*—When it is known that scarcity or famine is inevitable, or that any unusual stress for the supply of food-grains or fodder is likely to be thrown on any railway administration, the Commissioner shall convene a meeting of the civil and railway officers concerned to discuss its probable nature and extent and the measures by which any demands likely to be made on the railway can best be met. Attention shall at such meetings be specially directed to—

(*a*) the localities in which the scarcity is likely to occur;

(*b*) the date from which an unusual demand for import is likely to arise;

(*c*) the nature of the demand, whether for food-grains or fodder; and

(*d*) the probable sources from which supplies will be obtained.

In regard to (*d*) the leading merchants and traders shall be consulted.

29. *The Government of India to be informed of the approach of famine.*—As soon as the approach of famine becomes definite, the Local Government shall communicate to the Government of India all available information concerning it, stating the area which is likely to be affected, the economic condition of that area in ordinary times, the numbers and classes of persons likely to require relief, the crops affected and the extent to which they may be expected to fail, the contingencies on which the probable duration of distress depends, the position of the affected area as to local trade, food-supply and communications, the arrangements proposed for famine relief administration and relief works, the extent to which suspension of collections of the land revenue may be necessary, the possible requirement of the services of officers from other provinces, and the financial position of the Local Government.